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Public Lecture - More Effective Means to Cancer Control

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Public Lecture, October 19 -
MORE EFFECTIVE MEANS
TO CANCER CONTROL

Dayton, Ohio, September 30, 1977 --- "The Body's Own Cellular Defenses: Key to Control of Cancer" will be the topic of a public lecture, Wednesday, October 19, at 8 p.m. in Kennedy Union's Boll Theatre at the University of Dayton.

All are invited to attend the lecture by Dr. Nicholas R. Di Luzio, chairman, Department of Physiology, Tulane University School of Medicine, who will direct his presentation to a general audience.

In addition to his address to the general public, Dr. Di Luzio will present a technical seminar -- "Developmental Suudies of a New Immunostimulation-Agent Glucan" --- Thursday, October 20, 4:30 p.m. in Sherman Hall, room 217.

The presentation, according to Dr. Albert Burky of UD's Biology Department, are part of a new Biology Department program which each year will bring to campus, for an entire week, a distinguished visiting biologist. This year's invited scientist is Dr. Di Luzio.

Besides the two formal presentations, Dr. Di Luzio, whose curriculum vitae lists 403 titles, will meet with faculty, teach seminars, and lecture to students from the freshman through the graduate level.

Dr. Di Luzio has recently been focusing research on glucan, a polyglucose molecule found in the walls of yeast and some bacterial cells. The significance of glucan lies in its effect on the macrophage, one of the body's cellular defense mechanisms.

"Formerly held to be merely scavenger cells," according to Medical News and International Report, "the amoeba-like macrophage is now considered by Dr. Di Luzio and others as 'a major component of immune response in the host'."

Each macrophage is apparently able to kill one tumor cell.

"Macrophages," according to Medical News, "do seem to react to glucan the way hounds react to the scent of the fox. It seems to tell them that an invader is present, and they become activated and attack whatever 'non-self' cells are present, whether bacterial or cancerous."

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